



**ANIMAL PROTECTION & CONTROL
ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2003**

In Attendance:

Carol Williams
Deen Adolphe
Shirley Malar
Dr. Elizabeth Grauer
Linda Cox
Greg Ellison

Staff:

Tim Jennings
Mary Liddle

Rick Collord

I. Call to Order:

Carol Williams called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m. Ed Anderson, Debi Bidelman and Pat Jollota called and stated they would be unable to attend the meeting.

II. Reading & Approval of the March 2003 minutes:

The minutes were approved as written.

III. Orders of the Day

Fee Proposal

The fee proposal was discussed at length. A handout was given out comparing the current fees for Clark County verses the average fees for the Portland Metro Area and the larger jurisdictions in Washington State.

A proposed across the board \$3.00 increase for each license fee category was discussed. As well as removing the senior fertile dog and cat discounts and limiting the senior discount to altered pets only.

The Clark County Animal Protection & Control Expense history for the last 10 years was also handed out showing that there has been an overall increase of 48% in expenses while licensing fees have remained unchanged.

Other fee increase options were discussed. Staff summarized the Boards recommendation as: Increase Altered Dog and Altered Cat fee to the regional standards. Unaltered dog and cat fees currently represent, or exceed state and regional fee categories Remove Senior discount for unaltered dogs and cats.

Category	Current Fee	Proposed
Fertile Dog	\$40	\$40
Altered Dog	\$12	\$16
Fertile Cat	\$20	\$20
Altered Cat	\$ 6	\$10
Senior Altered Dog*	\$ 6	\$ 8
Senior Altered Cat*	\$ 3	\$ 5
Senior Fertile Dog*	\$20	NA
Senior Fertile Cat*	\$10	NA
*Senior discount rate for dog & 1 cat per household		

Tim stated he would forward that information to the Board of County Commissioners and Vancouver City Council for their review.

Strategic Planning: Five-Year Plan

A final version of the Five-Year Plan was handed out. Tim asked everyone to look at it and get any final changes to him in the next 10 days or it would be considered a final copy.

APC Quarterly Report

The quarterly report for Animal Protection & Control was handed out. There is an overall 14% increase in revenue and transactions for licensing. The complaint numbers are down a little but Tim advised that the numbers are being tracked a little differently this year than in years past. In the past complaint numbers were generated at the beginning of the year for all the neighborhood associations that we patrol and canvass. Those same tracking numbers for 2003 are not being generated until we are actually there. By year end all those numbers will be in line with each other.

Community Spay Neuter Program

A report of all the groups receiving funds from the spay neuter program was handed out. Tim indicated that it is a contract requirement that the funds disbursed to the various groups be accounted for. He indicated that Justice for Animal Welfare Society and Second Chance Companions were very good about it. But the groups that have failed to turn in any reports may be referred to the prosecutor for further action.

IV . Roundtable

Rick Collord gave the quarterly stats for the humane society as seen below:

DOGS

Receiving – Up 12%
Adoptions – Up 44%
Euthanasia – Up 15%
Redemption – Up 9%

CATS

Receiving – Down 2%
Adoptions – Up 13%
Euthanasia – Up 2%
Redemption – Up 44%

He also stated that the adopt-a-thon and walk for the animals was coming up.

V. New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

VI. Public Forum

Two members from the public did give their opinion and comments during the fee proposal section. They felt the fee structure was unfair to fertile pet owners and wondered why one pays more than the other. There was extensive discussion regarding the statistics of animals arriving at the shelter, emergency clinic and seen by animal control. By far they are unaltered, requiring community expense to address what should be an owner responsibility. Altered pets are not generating the community problem, or posing, a potential impact upon community resources as unaltered pets.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Hearing Tribunal

3 members stayed to review 1 written appeal.

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